

The Russian Peeps Quiz

Ivan the Terrible	Peter the Great	Catherine the Great	Czar Nicholas II
Bolsheviks	Vladimir Lenin	Karl Marx	Joseph Stalin
			Soviets

1. _____ They overthrew the government during the Russian Revolution.
2. _____ He crowned himself "czar" and extended the Russian Empire from north of Kiev to the Arctic Ocean and east to the Urals.
3. _____ Governing bodies, under communism, that passed laws and made decisions.
4. _____ This czar abdicated the throne in 1917 and was later killed along with his family.
5. _____ The ideals of communism were written about by this German philosopher.
6. _____ This czar ruled Russia in the late 1700's, expanding Russia to north side of the Black Sea and into the Volga region (bringing non-Russians into the empire).
7. _____ Took control of the government upon Lenin's death and his brutal rule lasted until 1953.
8. _____ This czar had St. Petersburg built for his capital and took control of Ukraine and Belarus to expand the empire.
9. _____ He led the Russian Revolution in 1917 inspired by the writings ideas of Marx.

Olympic Games? (p. 6)

❶ In the weeks leading up to the Sochi Olympic Games, Russian President Vladimir Putin

- a sharply criticized the International Olympic Committee.
- b freed thousands of political prisoners.
- c repealed a law banning American adoptions of Russian children.
- d all of the above

❷ In the summer of 2013, Russia

- a briefly imprisoned Edward Snowden for "hooliganism."
- b charged Edward Snowden with embezzlement.
- c offered political asylum to Edward Snowden.
- d none of the above

❸ Russia and the United States have been in conflict over

- a the terrorist bombings in Volgograd.
- b the location of the 2014 Winter Games.
- c whether to reduce their stockpiles of nuclear weapons.
- d the civil war in Syria.

❹ The Russian Revolution ushered in an era of

- a czar rule.
- b Communist rule.
- c economic revival.
- d limited democratic reform.

❺ What is true of Russia today?

- a It's the world's top oil producer.
- b It has won more Olympic gold medals than any other nation.
- c While Putin is president, Dmitri Medvedev wields the real power behind the scenes.
- d all of the above

❻ Vladimir Putin is a former

- a Olympic gold medalist.
- b Soviet spy.
- c oil company president.
- d Islamic insurgent.

IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS

❶ What does Russia expert Fiona Hill mean when she says, "The U.S. and Russia are not natural partners"?

❷ What statement are U.S. leaders making by not attending the opening ceremony of the Sochi Olympic Games?

❸ Why do you think many Russians seem willing to live with an authoritarian government?

①

②

③

The Trans-Siberian Railroad

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/pictureshow/143016679/russia-by-rail>



Introduction – “Russia by Rail: Setting off from Moscow”

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/pictureshow/2011/12/02/143016643/russia-by-rail-setting-off-from-moscow>

1. What is the total distance from Moscow to Vladivostok? KM- Miles-
2. Describe the significance of the Trans-Siberian Railroad?
3. What does the geology professor Sergei Tarkhov’s advice tell you about the culture of this railroad?
4. How would you describe the overall mood of the people interviewed on the platform as the train is about to leave Moscow?

Part 1 – “Russia, A Nation Shaped by Tragedy and Hardship”

<http://www.npr.org/news/specials/2012/russia-by-rail/#/news/specials/2012/russia-by-rail/nation-shaped-by-tragedy-and-hardship.html>

1. How many time zones does the Trans-Siberian Railroad cross?
2. Describe two examples of pain and hardship that Russians have had to endure.
3. How is this pain and suffering viewed by the Russian people?
4. What was the irony of the Moscow airport bombing (versus how it might have been handled at a U.S. airport) that occurred there last year?
5. What is a concern of Ella Stroganova (museum curator) with the younger generation in regards to her country's progress?